Claims

[c1]   A meat cut classification system for determining the
        thickness of a layer of fat comprising:

        a rail extending parallel to a conveyor said rail having a
        trolley mechanism operable to translate along said rail
        and said trolley having a probe extending vertically up-
        ward from said trolley;

        a cam follower mechanism operatively attached between
        said trolley and a trolley roller chain where said roller
        chain has at least one sprocketed pulley axially attached
        to a drive shaft where said drive shaft is operatively con-
        nected to a conveyor drive by a clutch assembly where
        said clutch is operable to selectively transfer drive from
        the conveyor drive to the drive shaft for causing transla-
        tion of said trolley along said rail; and

        said probe assembly having a cylinder adapted to elevate
        a probe upward transverse the direction of conveyance
        for probing a meat cut.

[c2]   The meat cut classification system as recited in claim 1
        where said probe further comprises:

        a pointed end of the probe sufficiently pointed to pene-
        trate a meat cut;

a signal emitter housed interior the probe and adjacent a window of the probe and operable to emit a signal through said window to a surrounding area exterior the probe; and

a signal receiver housed interior the probe and adjacent the window and operable to receive a signal reflected back through the window and transmit a control signal representative of the reflected signal to a controller.